

## MEMORANDUM

DATE: June 16, 2011  
TO: Policy Committee  
FROM: Scott Whyte, Senior Planner  
SUBJECTS: Development Standards - Draft Sound Wall Design Guidelines

---

Staff presented a proposal for creating a set of design guidelines for sound wall design to the Policy Committee during Stage I of the Zoning Ordinance Update process. The Committee endorsed staff's proposals and suggested that several design elements be incorporated into the guidelines.

Following that meeting, the Board of Supervisors held a work session in March 2011 to discuss a number of proposed ordinance amendments for development standards. The Board reviewed the recommendations for creating a set of design guidelines for sound walls.

For Stage II of the process staff has drafted a set of design guidelines for sound walls which address the topics discussed at both the February Policy Committee meeting as well as the March Board work session. The new guidelines are intended to assist the County in communicating its desires for sound wall design to VDOT during the planning stages to ensure design and installation of quality aesthetically pleasing sound walls that blend into their surroundings.

Staff requests the Policy Committee offer comment on these draft guidelines prior to the Board of Supervisors work session in July.

Attachment:

1. James City County Sound Wall Design Guidelines